

Message Text

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ACTION STR-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01
CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FRB-03 H-01 INR-10
INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 CTME-00
AID-05 SS-15 ITC-01 TRSE-00 ICA-11 SP-02 SOE-02
OMB-01 DOE-15 OIC-02 /126 W
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USMTN

ACTION STR
PASS AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE
STR PASS CODEL

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: MTN, ETRD
SUBJECT: MTN: BILATERAL CONSULTATION WITH THAILAND

REF: GENEVA A-143

1. US MTN DEL (SWAIN) HELD CONSTRUCTIVE AND POSITIVE MEETING JUNE 22 WITH THAI DEL (AMB. XUTO AND JAYANAMA) ON NATURE AND SCOPE OF THAILAND'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE MTN, WHICH IS TO BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING JUNE 28/29. THE GOT HAS NOW TAKEN THE POLITICAL DECISION TO PROVISIONALLY ACCEDE TO THE GATT, TO MAKE PRODUCT SPECIFIC CONCESSIONS IN RESPONSE TO US INDICATIVE LISTS OF EXPORT INTERESTS, AND TO CONSIDER SERIOUSLY PARTICIPATION IN NTM CODES.

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2. THAILAND IS TO SUBMIT JUNE 23 A LETTER TO THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF THE GATT INDICATING ITS DESIRE TO ACCEDE TO THE GATT AND ITS INTENT WILL BE COMMUNICATED TO THE CONTRACTING PARTIES AT THE NEXT COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULED MID-JULY. XUTO EMPHASISED THAT GOT DECISION TO ACCEDE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AS A MAJOR CONTRIBUTION BY THAILAND TO THE MTN AND POINTED OUT THAT IN TAKING SUCH A DECISION

THE GOT ENDORSES THE PRINCIPLE OF BINDINGS TO WHICH THEY HAD EARLIER EXPRESSED GRAVE RESERVATIONS.

3. WITH REGARD TO BINDINGS, XUTO OPINED THAT GOT WOULD LIKELY BIND STATUTORY RATHER THAN EFFECTIVE RATES BUT DID NOT RULE OUT THE POSSIBILITY OF BINDING EFFECTIVE RATES ON A LIMITED PRODUCT BASIS. THE EXTENT OF BINDINGS AND DEPTH OF TARIFF REDUCTIONS THEY ARE PREPARED TO CONSIDER WILL DEPEND ULTIMATELY ON THE BENEFITS THEY HOPE TO ACHIEVE THROUGH THE MTN AND IN THIS REGARD REITERATED GOT'S INTEREST IN MAINTENANCE OF THE US OFFER, THE HIGH PRIORITY GOT PLACES ON OBTAINING TARIFF REDUCTIONS ON CANNED PINEAPPLE AND CONCENTRATED PINEAPPLE JUICE, AND POSSIBILITIES OF FURTHER IMPROVEMENTS TO US INDUSTRIAL OFFER AS PER THEIR SUPPLEMENTARY REQUESTS (REFTEL).

4. IN COURSE OF DISCUSSION, THAI DEL INDICATED THAT TARIFF REDUCTIONS COULD BE OFFERED ON THE FOLLOWING ITEMS: EX 0202, TURKEYS; 080420, RAISINS; 080601, APPLES; EX 1602, TURKEY MEAT; 240202, CIGARETTES; 841521, REFRI-
GERATORS, AND; 902830, OSCILLOSCOPES. THE DEPTH OF CUT WILL BE COMMUNICATED NEXT WEEK TOGETHER HOPEFULLY WITH AN INDICATION OF THE LEVEL OF TARIFF BINDINGS TO BE OFFERED ON ALL US REQUEST ITEMS. POSSIBLE TARIFF REDUCTIONS ON CONSTRUCTION MACHINERY AND PARTS THEREOF, PROTEIN CONCENTRATES AND ISOLATES, BEEF, AND CITRUS
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JUICES WERE STILL UNDER CONSIDERATION. WITH RESPECT TO 902839, ELECTRONIC AND ELECTRIC INSTRUMENTS FOR MEASURING ELECTRICAL QUANTITIES AND 902859, OTHER ELECTRICAL MEASURING, CHECKING, ANALYSING AND CONTROLLING INSTRUMENTS, MORE PRODUCT SPECIFIC IDENTIFICATION WAS REQUIRED FROM US TO FACILITATE POSITIVE THAI CONSIDERATION OF THESE REQUESTS.

5. US DEL EXPRESSED APPRECIATION OF GOT'S POSITIVE DECISION TO ACCEDE TO THE GATT AND TO ENGAGE NEGOTIATIONS WITH US ON A PRODUCT SPECIFIC BASIS. US DEL REITERATED IMPORTANCE OF RECEIVING WRITTEN CONFIRMATION OF THAILAND'S MTN CONTRIBUTIONS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. THAI DEL PROMISED TO DO SO BY JUNE 28/29 AFTER RECEIVING FINAL GOT CLEARANCES ON JUNE 27. IN MEANTIME, US DEL WOULD APPRECIATE WASHINGTON RESPONSE TO THAI REQUEST FOR MORE PRECISE PRODUCT IDENTIFICATION ON ITEMS 902839 AND 902859.

DRAFTED BY SWAIN. MCDONALD

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NNN

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